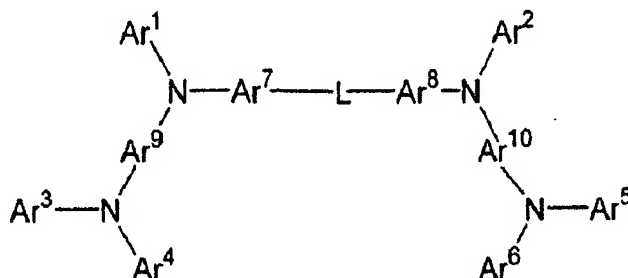


REMARKS

Claims 1 and 2 remain herein. Claims 3-6 are presently withdrawn from consideration.

Claims 1-2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Kawamura et al. PCT Application Pub. WO00/14174.

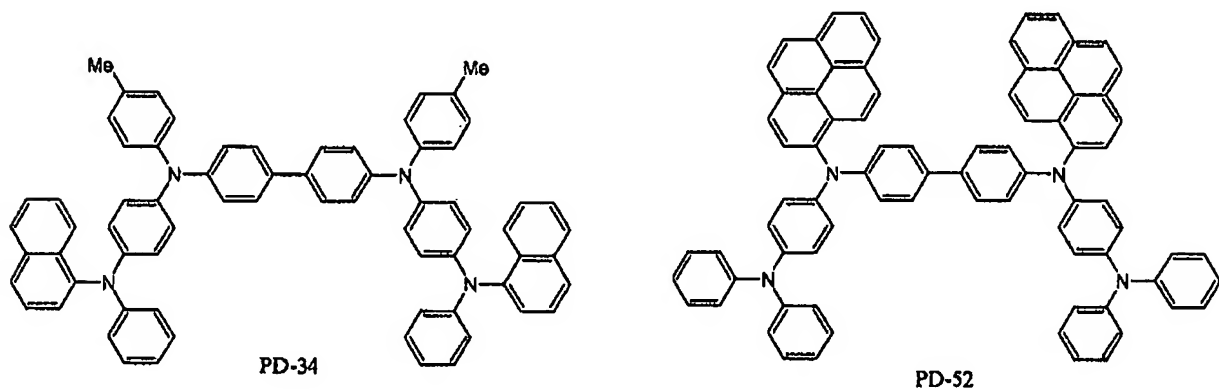
Applicants' claim 1 recites an aromatic amine derivative capable of emitting blue light, and represented by Formula (1):



(1)

wherein Ar¹ to Ar² each represent a condensed aryl group having 10 to 18 nuclear carbon atoms, which is optionally substituted by an alkyl group or alkoxyl group; Ar³ to Ar⁶ each represent an aryl group having 6 to 18 nuclear carbon atoms, which is optionally substituted by an alkyl group, alkoxyl group, aryl group, aralkyl group, aryloxy group, arylthio group, alkoxycarbonyl group, halogen atom, cyano group, nitro group or hydroxyl group; Ar⁷ to Ar¹⁰ each represent an arylene group having 6 to 18 nuclear carbon atoms, which is optionally substituted by an alkyl group or alkoxyl group; L represents a single bond; and at least one of Ar³ to Ar⁶ is a condensed aryl group having 10 to 18 nuclear carbon atoms, which is optionally substituted by an alkoxyl group.

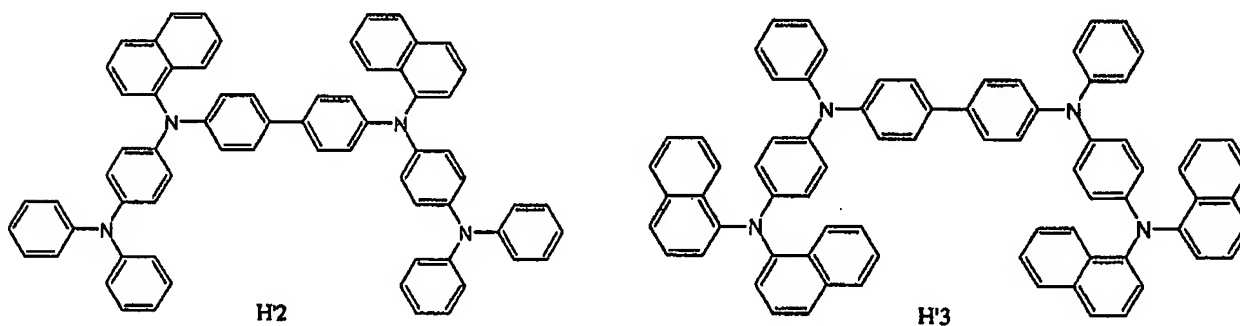
The compound of applicants' claim 1 includes: (i) condensed aryl groups at the Ar¹ and Ar² positions; and (ii) a condensed aryl group at least at one of the Ar³ to Ar⁶ positions. As acknowledged by the Office Action, none of Kawamura's compounds discloses or suggests a condensed aryl group at both the Ar¹ and Ar² positions and at least at one of the Ar³ to Ar⁶ positions. The Office Action states that because individual compounds of Kawamura separately teach conditions (i) and (ii) of the claim proviso, it is allegedly within the purview of one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the structure of Kawamura's compound PD-34 to include the aryl groups in the Ar³ and Ar⁶ positions from compound PD-52. But, nowhere does Kawamura disclose, teach or suggest such modification, the desirability of such modification, or the advantage derived from such modification.



Kawamura is concerned with providing a material having a small ionization potential and exhibiting a large hole mobility. Kawamura uses the phenylenediamine derivative of formula (I) as a hole transport material, not as a light emitting material. Kawamura says nothing about the blue emission of the phenylenediamine derivative. In fact, Kawamura teaches the use of other compounds (benzothiazole, a benzoimidazole, a benzoxazole, a metal-chelated oxinoid and a

styrylbenzene) to obtain blue emission. Thus, one of ordinary skill in the art reading Kawamura and seeking a compound capable of emitting blue light even at high temperatures would have no motivation to consider and modify the phenylenediamine compound of Kawamura, as alleged in the Office Action.

The Office Action further states that apart from a showing of unexpected results, the person of ordinary skill in the art would deem that the disclosure of Kawamura renders the instant claims obvious. Contrary to that assertion applicants' claim 1 recites a structure, not disclosed by Kawamura, which, as claimed, has been disclosed to exhibit the unexpected result of emitting blue light even at high temperature (see page 3, line 21 to page 4, line 4 of the specification). Applicants' specification shows that compounds H'2 and H'3, which are comparable to Kawamura's compounds PD-52 and PD-34, are poor in heat resistance and fail to emit blue light, but emit at a longer wavelength, namely, green light (see compounds H'2 and H'3 and Table 1 at pages 114-116 of the specification).



And, page 117, lines 1-14 of applicants' specification states: It can be found from the results shown in Table 1 that the elements using the aromatic amine derivatives of the present invention for the hole injecting material in Examples 29 to 56 were excellent in a storage stability at a high temperature while maintaining a high light emitting efficiency at a low voltage and a long life. In contrast with this, the organic EL elements prepared in Comparative Examples 1 to 3 were inferior in a heat resistance and therefore did not emit an essential blue color, and they heterogeneously emitted light or emitted light which was shifted to a longer wave length due to other light emitting components which were mixed in.

Thus, when only one of the conditions of the claim proviso is met, the resulting compounds are poor in heat resistance and fail to emit blue light.

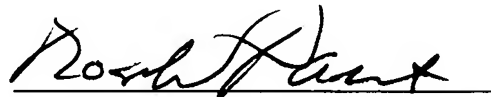
Thus, Kawamura does not disclose all elements of applicants' claimed invention, and does not disclose anything that would have suggested applicants' claimed invention to one of ordinary skill in the art. There is no disclosure or teaching in Kawamura, or otherwise in this record, that would have suggested the desirability of modifying any portions thereof effectively to anticipate or suggest applicants' presently claimed invention. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

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For the foregoing reasons, claims 1 and 2 are now fully in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The PTO is hereby authorized to charge or credit any necessary fees to Deposit Account No. 19-4293. Should the Examiner deem that any further amendments would be desirable in placing this application in even better condition for issue, he is invited to telephone Applicant's undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger W. Parkhurst", is written over a horizontal line.

Roger W. Parkhurst
Reg. No. 25,177
Houda Morad
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Date: February 26, 2008

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